

Nina Gilden Seavey
Producer/Director/Writer
THE OPEN ROAD: AMERICA LOOKS AT AGING

Nina Gilden Seavey is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker and a 25-year veteran of the documentary world. Her work can be seen on television, in theaters, and in museum exhibitions across the nation. She is the founder and director of The Documentary Center at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. She also serves as the Executive Producer of SILVERDOCS: The AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival. She was Festival Director in 2003.

Seavey's latest film, *THE OPEN ROAD: AMERICA LOOKS AT AGING*, will be aired across America on public television beginning in July 2005. The film explores the personal and societal opportunities and obstacles that lie ahead as the Baby Boom generation begins to retire. The film's release will be accompanied by outreach efforts in local communities throughout the U.S.

The film for which she received an Emmy nomination for Best Director is *THE BALLAD OF BERING STRAIT* which follows the journey of seven Russian teenagers who come to America to become country music stars. *BALLAD*, in hi-definition, won the Audience Award at the Washington International Film Festival and was an official selection of the International Documentary Association's theatrical run in qualification for the Academy Awards.

Seavey's film, *A PARALYZING FEAR: THE STORY OF POLIO IN AMERICA* was nationally broadcast on PBS in October 1998 and won an Emmy Award. The film also received the Erik Barnouw Prize for the Best Historical Film of the Year. The film's theatrical release was at the Film Forum in New York City and afterwards it toured sixty cities nationwide. The broadcast of *A PARALYZING FEAR* was accompanied by the publication of a companion book of the same title, for which Seavey was the first author.

Among other notable projects, Seavey produced the Discovery Channel special, *THE BATTLE OF THE ALAMO*, which she also co-directed with Academy-Award winning filmmaker, Paul Wagner. Seavey also produced four documentary films on permanent exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum and co-produced *There we Wandered Sometimes West*, a large-screen installation at the base of the great western trails for the National Park Service.

Seavey's first full-length dramatic feature, *EVENING LIGHT*, has been scripted and is currently in casting. The film is based on a true story about a 1940s archeologist who makes an amazing find and reveals how one man's will can shape history.

As Director of the Documentary Center over the past 15 years, Seavey has mentored and graduated over 250 aspiring non-fiction filmmakers who have come from around the world to study in her unique, intensive six-month program.

Seavey also regularly serves as panelist and advisor to many projects including efforts on behalf of the Duke Ellington School for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Anthony Radziwill Documentary Fund of the IFP, the Southern Humanities Media Fund, and Women in Film and Video.

Prior to becoming a filmmaker, Seavey had a career in politics from 1972 until 1980. She served on the Missouri campaign staff for the presidential campaigns of George McGovern and Morris

Udall and for the senatorial campaign for Thomas Eagleton (D-MO). Later, she served as foreign and military policy advisor to Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder (D-CO) and received a political appointment in the Office of the Secretary of Defense during the Carter Administration.

Seavey lives in Takoma Park, MD, with her husband, Ormond, and their three children, Aaron, Eleanor, and Caleb, along with the family dogs, Daisy and Lily.